Angry Daley Hits HHH Candidacy

From News Dispatches

CHICAGO, March 5—Mayor Richard J. Daley, his voice quaking with rage, said today that the 1968 Democratic National Convention should not have nominated Hubert H. Humphrey.

"I thought we should have had a stronger candidate," the mayor, a Democratic Party powerhouse, told a news conference. "His name is the name of a former President of the United States.

The mayor did not specify whether he meant then-President Johnson or Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.).

(Daley publicly urged Kennedy to accept the vice presidential nomination and was reported, at one stage of the convention, to have encouraged a move to draft Kennedy for President.)

The attack on Humphrey came in response to a Monday television interview in which Humphrey said Daley "didn't exactly break his heart for me" in the campaign. Daley's handling of protesters during the convention, held in Chicago, was a "tragedy," Humphrey said.

Lack of Campaigning

Daley said today he thought Humphrey lost the election becuase he did not campaign vigorously enough in Illinois.

At times almost incoherent and shaking with rage, Daley said, "I don't think there's any doubt about it—Humphrey didn't get the vote in the suburbs he should have."

Daley, head of one of the strongest and last big-city political machines, said that Humphrey, unlike Mr. Johnson and John F. Kennedy, refused to campaign extensively in Illinois, despite constant appeals from himself and other top Illinois Democrats.

The Mayor asserted that part of the problem was that, toward the end of the campaign, Humphrey's staff was in a state of confusion.

"We didn't know who to talk to on Humphrey's staff, it was changing so fast," Daley said.

"Kennedy and Johnson spent a lot of time in the suburbs, especially in Du Page County," Daley said, continuing: "They campaigned in East St. Louis, Carbondale, Peoria, Springifeld; none of this was done in this campaign."

The outburst from the Mayor came during questioning by reporters following a news conference at which officials of Sears, Roebuck and Co. announced plans for construction of a new national headquarters on the West Side.

Television Assailed

Asked if he agreed with Humphrey's statement on television that disturbances in the streets during the convention contribured to Humphrey's defeat, the Mayor told a television newsman:

"The American public was defrauded by television coverage of the convention. You and your stations set up what happened at Michigan and Balbo, and everybody knows that."

In the outburst, which at times became difficult to understand, Daley said he had "Nothing to do with setting up the convention, or with running the police department."

Daley made it clear that he was talking only about television coverage of the convention and not of coverage provided by other media.

"I'm not talking about the news media; I'm talking about television," he said.